

Message Text

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R 160040Z JAN 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UR, US, EGEN

SUBJECT: MEETING OF EXPERTS ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE AND
MARKET RESEARCH GROUP

REF: STATE 003587

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY MET WITH MKRTUMOV JANUARY 13 TO DISCUSS PREPARATIONS FOR EXPERTS MEETING ON INFORMATION EXCHANGE. MKRTUMOV INDICATED FEBRUARY 12-14 AS DATES ACCEPTABLE TO SOVIETS FOR MOSCOW MEETING. PARSKY SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF EXTENDING MEETING THROUGH FEBRUARY 15 TO HAVE TIME TO SET UP PROGRAM FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE, PREPARE MINUTES AND ALLOW FOR TWO DAYS OF SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS. MKRTUMOV PERSONALLY THOUGHT EXTRA DAY WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE AND WOULD PROPOSE IT TO MOSCOW. PARSKY PROMISED TO GIVE MKRTUMOV MEMBERSHIP OF U. S. DELEGATION (PROBABLY 10-12 PEOPLE) BY JANUARY 17. WILL INFORM EMBASSY GROUP'S MEMBERSHIP AND SCHEDULE ASAP.

2. MKRTUMOV REQUESTED INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS U. S. PREPARED TO GIVE SOVIETS IN ADVANCE OF MEETING BE SENT TO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW FOR TRANSMITTAL TO MFT. INFORMATION AND DOCUMENTS INCLUDE STATISTICAL AND TECHNICAL DATA IN AREAS
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OF ECONOMICS, AGRICULTURE, INDUSTRY AND FOREIGN TRADE.

DOCUMENTS BEING AIR POUCHED TO MELENCAMP, JANUARY 17.

3. FOLLOWING AGENDA GIVEN MKRTUMOV:

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12

MORNING - ORGANIZATION AND PROCEDURES FOR THE CURRENT MEETING.

AFTERNOON - EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON KINDS OF DATA TO BE EXCHANGED AND DEVELOPMENT OF PROGRAM OF COOPERATION.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13

MORNING - U. S. PRESENTATIONS

AFTERNOON - QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

MORNING - SOVIET PRESENTATIONS

AFTERNOON - QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

MORNING - PREPARATION OF MINUTES

4 P. M. - SIGNING OF DOCUMENTS

END OF AGENDA

4. TEXT OF TALKING POINTS GIVEN
MKRTUMOV IS AS FOLLOWS:

"WE ARE IN GENERAL AGREEMENT WITH THE SOVIET PROPOSAL CALLING FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON THE CONDUCT OF THE PRESENT MEETING AND THE KINDS OF DATA TO BE EXCHANGED UNDER THE LONG-TERM AGREEMENT.

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--IN ADDITION TO DEVELOPING A COMPREHENSIVE PROGRAM FOR INFORMATION EXCHANGE, WE WISH TO HAVE SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSION DURING THE INITIAL MEETING. WE SUGGEST THAT ONE DAY OF OUR DISCUSSIONS BE DEVOTED TO U. S. AND ONE DAY TO SOVIET PRESENTATIONS.

-- WE ENVISAGE U. S. AND SOVIET PRESENTATIONS ON (1)

THE CURRENT DEVELOPMENTS AND PROSPECTS OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMIES OF THE TWO COUNTRIES, INDUSTRIAL TRENDS, AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENTS AND FOREIGN TRADE, AND (2) EXPLANATIONS OF HOW THE DATA EXCHANGED PRIOR TO THE MEETING WERE COLLECTED, ANALYZED AND USED TO UNDERSTAND OUR RESPECTIVE ECONOMIES AND FOR FORECASTING TRENDS.

WE ALSO ANTICIPATE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EACH SIDE TO ASK CLARIFYING QUESTIONS OR REQUEST ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHICH MIGHT ENABLE IT BETTER TO UNDERSTAND THE PRESENTATIONS AT THE MEETING OR THE MATERIAL WHICH HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY EXCHANGED.

-- TO PROVIDE FOR THE TWO-DAY SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS, IT WOULD BE DESIRABLE TO ADD ONE DAY TO THE SCHEDULED DURATION OF THE MEETING.

-- IN ADDITION TO ASSISTANT SECRETARY PARSKY, THE U. S. DELEGATION WILL BE COMPOSED OF SEVERAL EXPERTS KNOWLEDGEABLE ON THE U. S. ECONOMY AND THE U. S. STATISTICS EXCHANGED PRIOR TO THE MEETING; AND SEVERAL EXPERTS FAMILIAR WITH THE SOVIET ECONOMY."

END OF TEXT

5. MKRTUMOV ASKED FOR DATES OF THREE-DAY MEETING OF THE MARKET RESEARCH TEAM. PARSKY SUGGESTED MARKET RESEARCH MEETING WOULD FOLLOW, STARTING ON FEBRUARY 17. SEPTTEL COVERS MARKET RESEARCH GROUP ARRANGEMENTS. KISSINGER

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